

VZCZCXRO7711  
RR RUEHGR  
DE RUEHSP #1263 3061519  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
R 021519Z NOV 06  
FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7528  
INFO RUCNCOM/EC CARICOM COLLECTIVE  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0063

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 001263

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR WHA/CAR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [UNGA](#) [LE](#) [IS](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [TD](#)

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO DEMARCHE ON UNGA RESOLUTIONS ON THE SITUATION  
OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND CHILDREN IN LEBANON

REF: STATE 176793

[1](#)1. Polchief delivered the talking points contained in Reftel, on  
November 1, to MFA Multilateral Division Director Susan Gordon.

[1](#)2. Gordon was clearly uncomfortable in her justification of certain  
aspects of the two NAM resolutions, particularly the omission from  
the resolutions of any mention of Hizballah, and wondered if other  
UN member states or groupings beside the US, such as the EU, were  
opposed to the two NAM resolutions. Polchief said that he did not  
know but that, since France, Italy and perhaps other US members are  
participating in the Unifil II peace keeping force separating the  
Israeli military from Hizballah in south Lebanon, he could not  
imagine they would look favorably on such one-sided resolutions.

[1](#)3. Gordon did cite Israel's "disproportionate" response to  
Hizballah's kidnapping of the two Israeli soldiers as justification  
for the resolutions, and said that, as a member of the NAM, it was  
unlikely that T&T would fail to support the resolutions or even  
abstain. Nevertheless, she said she would convey the US position to  
her superiors. Finally, she added that, since the MFA has not sent  
anyone to New York for this year's UN General Assembly session, the  
T&T Mission to the UN is extremely understaffed.

[1](#)4. COMMENT: As in the case of the Venezuela/ Guatemala vote on the  
Security Council seat, T&T will again likely avoid any direct  
rejection of a US request for support by citing its obligatory  
commitment to some larger grouping, this time the NAM. END  
COMMENT.

AUSTIN